

f
316

The King's Majesties
DECLARATION

To all His loving Subjects
of His Kingdome of
SCOTLAND.

WITH

AN ACT OF THE LORDS
of His Majesties Privy Councell
for the Printing and publish-
ing thereof.

AND

A LETTER OF THE LORD
Chancellour of Scotland, and of other
Lords, and others of His Majesties
Privy Councell, in that Kingdom,
to His MAJESTY.

Printed, by His Majesties Command,

AT OXFORD,

By LEONARD LICHFIELD, Printer
to the University. 1643. June

Harvard Library
May 26, 1913
Subscription for
English Historical Tracts



At Edinburgh the first day of June, 1643.

THE Lords of His Majesties Privie Councell of Scotland, having read and considered His Majesties Letter and Declaration this day exhibited unto them by the Earle of LANERICK His Majesties Secretary, Do wish all humble duty and thankfulness acknowledge His Majesties grace and goodness, so fully express therein towards this Kingdom: and that the same may be made known to all His Majesties good Subjects, do, conform to His Majesties Warrant, ordain the said Declaration to be Printed, and Published at the Market-Crosse of Edinburgh, by Heraulds and Pursuivants, with sound of Trumpet, and displayed Coats of Armes; and that the Sheriffs, Stewards, Bailiffs of Regalities and their Deputies, and Magistrates of Burroughs within this Kingdom, have a speciall care to set the same with all diligence Published and Proclaimed at the Market-Crosses of all Burroughs within their severall Jurisdictions.

Arch. Primerose
Cler. S. Conf.

645
48



His MAJESTIES Declaration to His loving Subjects of His Kingdom of Scotland.

AS there hath been no meane left unattempted by some seditious persons, which the malice and wit of Rebellion could devise, to infect and poison the affections and loyalty of our good Subjects of Our Kingdom of England, and to withdraw their hearts from Us, by the most pernicious and desperate calumnies that could be invented, to undervalue and lessen Our reputation with Forraigne Princes, by injuries and affronts upon their publique Ministers, and by procuring Agents to be sent, qualified for negotiation without Our consent, and thus to expose Us and Our Regall Authority to scorn and contempt, by assuming a power over Vs: so these pernicious contrivers of these bloody distempers, have not delighted in any art more, then in that by which they have hoped to stirre up Our good Subjects of that Our Native Kingdom of Scotland to joyne with them, and to infuse into them a jealousie and

dis-esteem of Our true affection, and Our gracious intentions towards that Nation. To this purpose they have used great industry to convey into that Our Kingdom, and to scatter and disperse their diverse seditious Pamphlets, framed and contrived against Our Person and Government, and have procured Agents to be sent to reside there, and to promote their desigues. One of which lately resi-

dent there, one *Pickering*, by his Letters of the 9. of *January*, from *Edinburgh* to Master *Pym*, assures him of the con-turrence of that Kingdom, and that the Ministers in the Pulpits doe in down-right termes preffe the taking up of Armes. And in another of his Letters of the same date, to Sir *John Clavworthby*, he saies, That *Trum-pets* sounded to the Battell, and all cryed, Arme, Arme. With many other bold, scandalous, and seditious passages, very derogatory from that duty and affection which We are most confident Our good Subjects of that Our Native Kingdom bear unto Vs. To this purpose they traduce Vs with the rai-ning, and making of Warre against Our Parliament; ha-ving an Army of Papists, and favouring that Religion; of endeavouring to take away the Liberty, and Property of Our Subjects. And upon these grounds they have pro-cured a publique Declaration, to invite Our good Subjects of that Our Kingdom of *Scotland*, to joyne with them, and to take up Armes against Vs their naturall Liege Lord. Lastly, to this purpose they endeavour aswell in publique, as by secret sly insinuation, to beget an apprehension in them, That if We prevail so farre here, as by the blessing of God, to preserve Our Self from the ruine they have de-signed to Vs, that the same will haue a dangerous influence upon that Our Kingdom of *Scotland*, and the Peace es-tablished there; and that the good Lawes lately consented to by Vs, for the happiness and welfare of that Our Native King-

Kingdom, will be no longer observed and maintained by Vs, then the same necessity, which they say extorted them from Vs, hangs upon Vs; but that We will turn all Our Forces against them: A calumny so groundlessly and impiously raised, that if We were in any degree conscious to Our Self of such wicked intentions, We should not only not expect a dutifull sense in that Our Native Kingdom of Our sufferings, but should think Our Self as unworthy of so great blessings and eminent protection, as We have received from the hands of the Almighty, to whom We know We must yeeld a dear accompt for any breach of trust, or failing of Our duty towards Our People.

But as We have taken especiall care from time to time to informe Our good Subjects of that Our Native Kingdome of the Occurrences here, particularly by Our Declaration of the 12. of August, wherein is a plain clear narration of the beginning and progresse of our sufferings to that time; So the bold and unwarrantable proceedings of those seditious persons, have been so publique and visible to the world, that Our good Subjects of Scotland could not but take notice of them, and have observed, that after We had freely and voluntarily consented to so many Acts of Parliament, as not only repaired all former grievances, but also added whatsoever was proposed to Us for the future benefit and security of Our Subjects, in so much as in truth there wanted nothing to make the Nation completely happy, but a just sense of their own excellent condition, a few discontented ambitious and factious persons, so far prevailed over the weakness of others, that in stead of receiving that return of thanks and acknowledgement, which We expected and deserved, Our people were poysoned with seditious and scandalous feares and jealousies concerning Vs; We were encountr'd with

more importunate and unseasonable demands; and at last were driven by force and tumults, to flee from Our City of London for the safety of Our life: after which We were still pursued with unheard-of insolencies and indig-
nities; and such Members of either House, as refused to joyn in those unjustifiable resolutions, likewise driven from those Counsels, contrary to the freedome and liberty of Parliament; insomuch as above four parts of five of that Assembly were likewise forced, and are still kept from thence. Our Forts, Ships, and Arms are taken from Vs; Our Money, Rents, and Revenue seized and detain-
ed; and that then a powerfull and formidable Army was raised and conducted against Vs (a good part of which was raised and mustered before We had given Our Commiss-
ions for raising one man;) That all this time We never denied any one thing that by the law We were required to grant, or asked one thing but what by the known law was unquestionably Our own; That We earnestly pressed and desired a Treaty, that We might but know at what price we might prevent the miseries and desolati-
on which were threatened, That this was absolutely and scornfully refused and rejected, and We compelled with the assistance of such of Our good Subjects as came to Our succour, to make use of Our defensive Arms for the safety of Our Life, and preservation of Our posterity: What hath since passed; That battell hath been given Vs, Our own Person, and Our Children endeavoured to be de-
stroyed; That unheard-of pressures have been exercised upon Our poor Subjects, by Rapine, Plundering & impri-
sonment, and that confusion which is since brought up-
on the whole excellent frame of Government of this Kingdome, is the discouete of Christendome: We are very far from making a Warre with, or against Our Par-
liament,

liament, of which We Our Selfe are an essentiaall part; Our principall quarrell is for the Priviledges of Parliament, aswell those of the two Houses, as Our own; if a few persons had not by arts and force first awed, and then driven away the rest, these differences had never arisen; much lesse had they ever come to so bloody a destru-
on.

We have often accused these persons against whom Our quarrell is, and desire to bring them to no other triall, then what by the Law of the Land they ought to be tryed by. And We have been compelled to take up these defensive Arms for the safety of Our Life, assaulted by Rebellious Arms, the defence of the true reformed Protestant Religion, scornfully invaded by Brownists, Anabaptists, and other independent Sectaries, who in truth are the principall Authors and sole Fomenters of this Civill Warre, for the maintenance of the liberty and property of the Subject, maliciously violated by a vast unlimited power, and for the preservation of the Rights, Dignity and Priviledges of Parliament, almost destroyed by Tu-
mults and Faction. So what hath by violence been taken from Vs, being restored, and the freedom of meeting in Parliament being secured, We have lately offered (though We have not been thought worthy of an Answer) to Disband Our Army, and leave all differences to the tryall of a full and peaceable convention in Parliament; and We cannot from Our Soul desir any blessing from Heaven more then We do a Peaceable and happy end of these unnatural Distractions. For the malicious groundlesse Aspersion of Our having an Army of Papists, though in the Condition and strait to which We were brought, no man had reason to wonder, if We received assistance from any of Our Subjects of what Religion soever, who by the Lawe

Lawes of the Land are bound to performe all offices of duty and allegiance to Vs; yet it is well known that we took all possible care by Our Proclamations to inhibit any of that Religion to repair to Vs, which was precisely, and straitly observed (notwithstanding even at that time We were traduced, as being attended on by none but Papists, when there hath not in a Moneth together one Papist been near Our Court) though great numbers of that Religion have with all alacrity been entertained in that **Rebellious Army** against Vs, and others have been endeavoured to be seduced, to whom We had formerly denied employment, as appears by the examination of many prisoners, of whom We have taken twenty and thirty at a time of one Troop, or Company, of that Religion. What Our opinion is of the Popish Profession, Our often Solemne Protestations before Almighty God, who knowes Our heart, do manifest to all the World, and what Our practice is in Religion, is not unknown to Our good Subjects of that Our Native Kingdom. And as We have omitted no way Our Conscience and Understanding could suggest to Us, for the advancing and promoting the true Protestant Religion, having Protested Our readinesse in a full and Peaceable Convention of Parliament, to consent to what soever shall be proposed to Us by Bill, for the better discovery and speedier Conviction of Recusants, for the education of the Children of Papists by Protestants in the Protestant Religion, for the prevention of the practices of Papists against the State, and the due execution of the Lawes against them: So We shall further embrace any just Christian means, to suppress Popery in all Our Dominions: of which inclination and resolution of Ours, that Our Native Kingdom hath received good evidence.

For the other malitious and wicked insipition, that Our successse here upon the Rebellious Arms raised against Vs, to destroy Vs, will haue an influence upon Our Kingdom of Scotland, and that We will endeavour to get loose from these wholesome Lawes which have been enacted by Vs there: We can say no more; but that Our good Subjects of that Kingdom do well remember with what Deliberation, Our Self being present at the debates, We consented to these Acts: And We do assite Our good Subjects there, and call GOD Almighty to Witnesse, of the uprightnesse and resolution of Our heart in that point, That We shall always use Our utmost endeavour to defend and maintain the Rights and Liberties of that Our Native Kingdom, according to the Lawes Civil and Ecclesiastical, established there, and shall no longer look for obedience, then We shall govern by the Lawes. And We hope, that Our zeal and courage in the defence only of the Lawes and Government of this Kingdom, and for the subjecking Our self to so great hazard and danger, will be no argument, that when that Work is done, We would passe through the same difficulties, to alter and invade the Constitutions of that Our other Kingdom: We find disadvantages enough to struggle with, in the defence of the most upright, innocent, just cause of taking up Arms, And therefore if We wanted the Conscience, We cannot the discretion to tempt GOD in an unjust Quarrell, the Lawes of that Our Kingdom shall be always facted into Vs: We shall refuse no hazard to defend them, but sure We shall run none to invade them.

And therefore We do conjure all Our good Subjects of that Our Native Kingdom, by the long, happy, and uninterrupted Government of Vs, and Our Royall Progenitors over them, by the memory of those many, large, &

publick blessings they enjoyed under Our dear Father, by these ample fauours and benefits they have received from Vs, by their own solemne Nationall Covenant, and their obligation of Friendship & Brother-hood with the Kingdom of England, not so suffer themselves to be misled or corrupted in their affections and duty to Vs, by the cunning malice and industry of these seditious Persons, & their adherents, but to look upon them as Persons who would involve them in their guilt, & sacrifice the honour, fidelite, and allegiance of that Our Native Kingdom, to their private end and ambition. And We require Our good Subj^{cts} there to consider, that the Persons who have contrived, fomented, and do still maintain these bloody distractions, and this unnatural Civill Warre, what pretence soever they make of the care of the true Reformed Protestant Religion, are in truth Brownists and Anabaptists, and other independent Sectaries. And though they seem to desire an Uniformity of Church-government with Our Kingdom of Scotland, do no more intend, and are as far from allowing the Church-government, by Law established there, or indeed any Church-government whatsoever, as they are from consenting to the Episcopall. And We cannot but expect a greater seene of Our sufferings, since the obligations We have laid upon that Our Native Kingdom, are used as arguments against Vs here, and Our free consenting to some Acts of Grace and Favour there (which were asked of Vs, by reason of Our necessary residence from thence) hath encouraged these ill-affected persons, to endeavour by force to obtain the same here, where We usually reside.

To conclude, We cannot doubt Our good Subjects there, will so far hearken to the Treason and Malice of Our enemies, as to interrupt their own present peace and happiness;

Happinesse. And God so deal with Ys and Our Posterity, as We inviolably obserue the Lawes and Statutes of that Our Native Kingdome, and the Protestations We have so often made to this, for the defence of the true reformed Protestant Religion, the Lawes of the Land, and the just Priviledges and Freedom of Parliament.

TO THE KINGS MOST SACRED AND

Excellent MAJESTY.

Most Sacred SOVERAIGNE;

We have received from the Earle of Lanerick Your Majesties Letter of the 21. of April. Wherain wes inclosed Your Majesties gratioues Declaration to Your Native Subjects of this Kingdome, Which according to Your Majesties Warrant We have ordained to be printed and published. And as We doe with all humble duty and thankfulnessse acknowledge Your Majesties grace and goodnesse, so We rest fully satisfied with the Expressions of Your gratioues intentions toward vs, & desire of preserving of Peace

among ws, and shall according to Our duty, and trus-
reposed in ws be Your Majesty and Estates of Par-
liament, Pursue all such courses as may continue the
same, and endeavour to prevent all Jealousies which
may arise upon any groundlesse report of leavynge
of Armes, or maintaining of Forces within this
Kingdome, without speciall Warrant from Your Ma-
jesty and Estates of Parliament. And in thū and e-
very other thing else shall behaue our selves in such a
dutyfull way as becomes

Yours, Your Majesties most hum-
ble Subjects and Servants.

Edinburgh, the 21 day of June 1543.

FINIS.

